

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-7 (canceled)

Claim 8 (previously presented): A method for treating a bone resorption-associated disease comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of a selective iNOS inhibitor **as a bone mass-maintenance drug to maintain bone mass.**

Claim 9 (previously presented): The method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the bone resorption-associated disease is osteoporosis.

Claims 10-11 (canceled)

Claim 12 (withdrawn): The method as claim in claim 8, wherein the selective iNOS inhibitor is used as an inhibitor of bone metastasis of tumor cells.

Claim 13 (withdrawn): The method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the bone resorption-associated disease is nephritis.

Claim 14 (withdrawn): The method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the selective iNOS inhibitor is used as a progression retardant of chronic renal failure.

Claim 15-18 (canceled)

Claim 19 (withdrawn): The kit as claimed in claim 15, wherein the selective iNOS inhibitor is used as an inhibitor of bone metastasis of tumor cells.

Claim 20 (withdrawn): The kit as claimed in claim 15, wherein the bone-resorption-associated disease is nephritis.

Claim 21 (withdrawn): The kit as claimed in claim 15, wherein the selective iNOS inhibitor is used as a progression retardant of chronic renal failure.

Claim 22 (previously presented): The method according to claim 8 wherein the selective iNOS inhibitor is an inhibitor which satisfies at least one requirement selected from the group consisting of (a), (b), and (c):

- a. the ratio of the IC50 level on eNOS to that on iNOS is 25 or above;
- b. the ratio of the IC50 level on nNOS to that on iNOS is 15 or above; and
- c. the ratio of the IC50 level on cNOS to that on iNOS is 15 or above.

Claim 23 (previously presented): The method according to claim 9 wherein the selective iNOS inhibitor is an inhibitor which satisfies at least one requirement selected from the group consisting of (a), (b), and (c):

- d. the ratio of the IC50 level on eNOS to that on iNOS is 25 or above;
- e. the ratio of the IC50 level on nNOS to that on iNOS is 15 or above; and
- f. the ratio of the IC50 level on cNOS to that on iNOS is 15 or above.

Claim 24-26 (canceled)

Claim 27 (new) A method for treating a bone resorption-associated disease comprising:

administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of a selective iNOS inhibitor as a bone mass-maintenance drug to maintain bone mass, said iNOS inhibitor being selected from the group consisting of isothioureia derivatives, amidine derivatives, 2-aminopyridine derivatives, and guanidine derivatives.